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I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: March 14, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.:	<u>09/328,972</u>	Art Unit:	<u>2877</u>
Filed:	<u>June 9, 1999</u>	Examiner:	<u>Z. Smith</u>
Inventor:	<u>Stephen D. Fantone, et al.</u>		
For:	<u>AUTOMATED OPTICAL MEASUREMENT APPARATUS AND METHOD</u>		

AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

An Office Action was mailed on October 25, 2001 setting a shortened statutory period of three months to respond to the action thereby making a response due, without extension, by January 25, 2002. To extend the shortened statutory period for response, a request for a two-month extension accompanies this response thereby making the response due by March 25, 2002. In response to the Office Action mailed on October 25, 2001, please amend and reconsider this application as follows.